

HOUSE No. 60

By Mr. Koczera of New Bedford, petition of Scott P. Brown and John F. Quinn for legislation to require primary candidates for Governor and Lieutenant-Governor to be nominated in groups. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE PRIMARY ELECTION OF THE GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 34 of chapter 53 of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in the 1998 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
3 inserting after the first paragraph the following paragraph:— The
4 surnames of candidates for governor and lieutenant governor shall
5 be placed upon the state primary ballot in groups, first names, res-
6 idential addresses, and the eight-word statement provided by
7 section forty-five, shall not be added. A voter shall vote for such
8 candidates in the manner provided by the last sentence of section
9 seventy-eight of chapter fifty-four. The group in which appears
10 the name of an incumbent governor shall be placed first, and the
11 remaining groups shall follow in alphabetical order of the sur-
12 names of the candidates for governor.

1 SECTION 2. Section 45 of said chapter 53, as so appearing, is
2 hereby amended by striking out the forth paragraph beginning in
3 line 16 and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:—
4 A state primary nomination paper for governor or lieutenant
5 governor shall contain the names of candidates for both such
6 offices. Otherwise, no nomination paper for use in the nomination
7 of candidates to be voted for at state primaries shall contain the
8 name of more than one candidate.

1 SECTION 3. Section 48 of said chapter 53 of the General
2 Laws, as appearing in the 1998 Official Edition, in line 14, is
3 hereby amended by striking out the words “governor, lieutenant
4 governor,” in line 14 and inserting the following:— governor and
5 lieutenant governor as a group.

1 SECTION 4. Section 43A of chapter 54 of the General Laws,
2 as appearing in the 1998 Official Edition, is hereby amended in
3 line 5 by striking out the words “at a state election”.

1 SECTION 5. Chapter 55 of the General Laws, as appearing in
2 the 1998 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after
3 section 5B, the following new section:—

4 Section 5C. Candidates campaigning as a team for the office of
5 governor and lieutenant governor in the primary and general elec-
6 tion may organize a joint committee which shall have all the
7 powers and duties of a political committee under the provisions of
8 this chapter.